Starting of any New Film Institutes in the country

1979. SHRI M. A. BARY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether theere is any proposal to start any new film institutes in the country;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) whether any proposal has been received from Government of Kerala; if so, the reaction of the Central Government towards the same?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Centre for Development of Imaging Technology, an autonomous Society sponsored by the Kerala State Film Development Corporation and approached the Government for grant of recognition. The main objectives of the Centre are to conduct research in the areas of film/video and developmental communication and also to organise courses in film/video techniques. The Kerala State Film Development Corporation had separately requested for financial assistance from the Department of Electronics. On this request, the Government decided to extend financial assistance to the Centre under the Technology Development Scheme. In view of this, the Centre was informed that there was no need for separate recognition by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

Amnesty International's request to visit Punjab and Kashmir

1980. SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Amnesty International has approached Government to visit Punjab and Kashmir; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): (a) No such request seems to have been received recently.

(b) Does not arise.

Statement of Bangladesh President about Muslims in Kashmir

1981. SHRI KAPIL VERMA:
KUMARI ALIA:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken up with the Bangladesh President his reported statements expressing 'concern' over the alleged excesses and persecution against Muslims in Kashmir; if so, what was his response in this regard; and

(b) whether the Bangladesh President has changed his stand of "Studied neutrality" over the issue?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL): (a) Yes, Sir. The matter was taken up strongly with the Government of Bangladesh. They were informed that the statement attributed to President Ershad constituted an unwarranted interference in India's internal affairs. As such, it was unfortunate, and could prove damaging to bilateral relations.